**2014 School Library Summit (*SLS14)***

**D R A F T**

**Mission**

Enable all New York State students to be college and career ready by strengthening the critical role of school librarians and school library programs in teaching and learning.

**Vision**

Through a partnership of professional library associations, school library systems, state education offices, educators, and community members, a framework and plan will be created to ensure all students have access to quality school library programs, relevant resources and a highly-skilled, certified school librarian in every school.

*The framework is divided into six sections, each with a statement of purpose, recommendations and action steps.*

**Collaborations & Partnerships**

The 2014 School Library Summit (*SLS14)*participants value working together with the State Education Department (SED) to ensure all students have access to relevant resources and information and digital literacy instruction through a quality school library program and a certified school librarian in every school. This collaborative partnership is critical to student success.

**Recommendation:** Foster ongoing conversations among *SLS14* lead organizations and multiple offices and departments at SED, for dialog on school librarians, high quality school library resources and excellent information literacy programs can contribute to achievement.

**Action:** SED offices and departments will invite *SLS14* lead organizations to participate along with other education groups and SED staff experts in the development of resources and strategiesfor implementation of Common Core and other Learning Standards.

**Action:** School library systems, working in conjunction with the State Education Department, will continue to investigate ways to leverage local and state funding for the purchasing of electronic content using cooperative purchasing, based on the New York Online Virtual Electronic Library [NOVELny](http://novelnewyork.org/) model.

**Development & Distribution of Resources**

School libraries and school librarians play a critical, central role in teaching and learning. In order to ensure that every student has access to a quality school library program and a highly skilled school librarian, it is important that the performance of both school library programs and school librarians be continuously nurtured and assessed. The library community has developed, and continues to refine, a number of powerful tools for the implementation, assessment and evaluation of quality school library programs and highly skilled school librarians. These tools include:

* [*The Empire State Information Fluency Continuum,*](http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/1A931D4E-1620-4672-ABEF-460A273D0D5F/0/EmpireStateIFC.pdf)the K-12 framework for the instructional aspects of a library program which forms the basis for the skills and strategies essential for students to become independent readers and learners. The *Empire State Information Fluency Continuum* is designed to integrate with teacher content areas, endorsed by the School Library Systems Association of New York State and aligned to the Common Core Learning Standards.
* [*School Library Media Program Evaluation (SLMPE) Rubric*](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/technology/library/SLMPE_rubric/home.html)*,* developed by the NYSED, the SLMPE rubric is a self-assessment instrument for use by teachers, librarians, students, administrators, parents, and school community members to assess the quality of a Library Media Program across 25 different "Essential Elements, " providing qualitative and quantitative evidence to aid in development of action plans for program improvements.
* [*The NYLA/SSL/SLSA School Librarian Evaluation Rubric*](http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/practicerubrics/) is approved to provide guidance to school districts in evaluating the performance of school librarians in support of the Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) process. The rubric, base on the Charlotte Danielson framework, was developed in a partnership between the Section of School Librarians (SSL) of NYLA and the School Library Systems Association (SLSA).

The support and assistance of SED in the broad promotion and distribution of these powerful tools will assist school leaders and school librarians in the further improvement of high-quality school library programs across the state.

**Recommendation:**  *SLS14* lead organizations will partner with SED on a series of action steps intended to continuously develop and promote materials and resources that aid in the improvement, assessment and evaluation of school library programs and school librarians via multiple channels. The action steps below are intended to ensure that all students will have access to a quality school library program and a highly skilled school librarian.

**Action:** The *Empire State Information Fluency Continuum* (IFC) will be prominent and accessible on EngageNY, as well as on the newly developed Exemplary School Library Program webpage of the Administrators’ channel of NYSED's website.

**Action:**  Creation of an "Exemplary School Library Media Program” web page on the School Administrators’ channel of the NYSED website with a list of key resources to assist administrators in developing and assessing strong school library programs.

**Action:** The *Empire State Information Fluency Continuum* (IFC) becomes an integral part of NYSED teaching and learning resources that contribute to the successful implementation of State learning standards.

**Action: *S****LS14* lead organizations will partner with SED to ensure that **f**uture review teams and resource guide creation groups can embed information fluency skills into curriculum and resource materials.

**Action:** Update the Essential Elements on the [SLMPE Rubric](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/technology/library/SLMPE_rubric/home.html) to reflect current practices in school library programs including Common Core Learning Standards and the *Empire State Information Fluency Continuum* and develop a toolkit to support the use of the SLMPE Rubric by every school district which will be prominent and accessible on EngageNY.

**Action:** Evaluate, update and strengthen the*NYLA-SSL/SLSA School Librarian Evaluation Rubric for APPR* to reflect current best practices in student learning and instruction

**Research & Data**

A key component in the improvement of a top quality school library programs is the availability of quantifiable data to benchmark the impact of these services on student outcomes. The data should be online, easy to access, current and comprehensive.

**Recommendation:** The *SLS14* lead organizations will partner with SED to review and update Basic Educational Data System (BEDS) Question 21, which provides critical data annually for multiple audiences about the status of New York State school library programs, resources and staffing.

**Action:** Revision of BEDS (Question 21 – Library Program) to reflect current practices and to make easily accessible key data that demonstrates the impact of school library programs and school librarians on student learning.

**Resources for Professional Development & Assessment**

The school library community recognizes the need for ongoing, quality professional development to ensure that practitioners are continuously refreshed on the most current research and skills to further the delivery of their programs. Further the community understands that providing opportunities for learning about school library programs to other segments of the education ecosystem is key to increasing awareness of critical role of school library programs and school librarians in advancing teaching and learning and in enabling all New York State students to be college and career ready.

**Recommendation:** The *SLS14* lead organizations will come together to advance top quality professional development, evaluated using a consistent format, to be delivered to a wide array of constituents, including pre-service and in-service school librarians, teachers and administrators.

**Action:** Develop and implement plan for coherent and sustained development of school librarian competencies, leadership and confidence.

**Action:** Provide multiple opportunities for other constituencies to develop understanding of the importance of student access to quality school library programs and a highly skilled school librarian to achieving college and career readiness.

**Action:** Develop structures and tools to provide sustained support for professional development for school librarians and other constituencies.

**Marketing, Communication & Outreach**

School library programs led by highly-skilled, certified school librarians play a critical role in enabling New York students to be college and career ready. But, is every school leader in New York State aware of the positive impact of school librarians and school library programs on student achievement? Is every teacher aware of the incredible knowledge, skills, expertise and resources a school librarian can provide that will help students succeed? Is every school librarian able to communicate clearly the importance of the library and its resources to student success to students, parents and the school community?

**Recommendation:** The *SLS14* lead organizations, partnering with SED where appropriate, will develop materials that clearly and concisely demonstrate these concepts and deliver that messaging via a wide array of vehicles and channels.

**Action:** Promote quality school library programs staffed by certified school librarians as essential to the implementation of the NYS Common Core Learning Standards through curriculum development, technology integration, and assessment.

**Action:** Develop a campaign to increase knowledge and understanding among pre-service teachers and school administrators as to the positive impact of highly-skilled school librarians, quality school library programs on student college and career readiness.

### Action: Professional organizations, in conjunction with SED, will establish a communication system with representatives from SSL, SED, iSchools, New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) and administrators’ organizations School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYS) and New York State Council of School Superintendents (NYSCOSS) to tell the story of the impact on all students’ college and career readiness through access to relevant resources and a certified school librarian in every school.

**Action:** Professional organizations, in conjunction with SED, will increase awareness among administrators and librarians regarding the effective usage of categorical School Library Materials Aid through outreach and education.

**Action:** Professional organizations will provide resources and training to empower school librarians to develop active and sustained approaches to advocacy locally within the school and with their external partners.

**Funding and Legislation**

As with so many things, funding is an essential ingredient for strong libraries. As part of NYS’s education infrastructure, State education funding and legislation can significantly impact school library programs.

**Recommendation:** NYLA and the school library community will provide support to SED in advancing a recommendation for the increase of School Library Materials Aid, as well as other legislative actions that will improve school library programs.

**Action:** NYLA, working in partnership with *SLS14* lead organizations and SED, will review current school librarian and School Library Materials Aid data, assess needs, and formulate a proposal for an increase in School Library Materials Aid.

**Action:** NYLA and the school library community will provide support to SED in advancing a recommendation for the increase of School Library Systems aid as a key part of the infrastructure and leadership for achieving many of the *SLS14* recommendations and action steps. The SLS has a key role in improving communications, delivering professional development and improving library programs

through leadership and collaboration, particularly with technology and e-resources.

**Action:** NYLA, working in partnership with *SLS14* lead organizations, will continue to support legislation at the state and national levels that will ensure that all New York State students have access to quality school library programs, relevant resources and a highly-skilled, certified school librarian in every school.